

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please substitute the following claims for the same-numbered claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for metering use of network-accessible computer resources by multiple users of ~~the~~ said computer resources during a same time period, said method comprising:

recording, as process accounting information, ~~the use~~ usage of the said computer resources during said time period for a plurality of processes that relate to service requests made by the users, said computer resources comprising servers distributed across an infrastructure of a service provider;

recording service request information for ~~the~~ service requests made by ~~the~~ said users to said service provider; and

correlating the recorded process accounting information and the recorded service request information; ~~and in order to determine~~ determining resource usage information for each of ~~the~~ said service requests for each of ~~the~~ said users during said time period, said correlating comprising: ~~based upon the correlated recorded process accounting information and the recorded service request information, said determining of said resource usage information comprising~~

identifying overlapping usage of any of said computer resources, said overlapping usage comprising usage, during said time period, of a same computer resource to perform processes for at least two different service requests of at least two different users; and

allocating any overlapping usage of the computer resources between at least two

~~overlapping service requests, the overlapping service requests being from different users, by one of evenly splitting the said overlapping usage between said at least two different the overlapping service requests and splitting the said overlapping usage in a weighted manner between said at least two different service requests based upon respective durations of said at least two different service requests of the overlapping service requests.~~

2. (Cancelled).
3. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of correlating request logging information and usage logging information.
4. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein the plurality of processes include processes dynamically spawned by processes for which process accounting information is recorded.
5. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of maintaining an active request list of the service requests made by the users.
6. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, wherein separate active lists are maintained for each of the processes.

7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of calculating a relative weight of each of the service requests.

8. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 7, further comprising the step of allocating the resource usage in proportion to calculated relative weights to the service requests.

9. (Currently Amended) A computer system for metering the use of network-accessible computer resources by multiple users of the said computer resources during a same time period, said computer resources comprising computer software recorded on a computer-readable medium and said computer system comprising:

means for recording, as process accounting information, ~~the use~~ usage of the said computer resources during said time period for a plurality of processes that relate to service requests made by the users, said computer resources comprising servers distributed across an infrastructure of a service provider;

means for recording service request information for ~~the~~ service requests made by the said users to said service provider;

means for correlating the recorded process accounting information and the recorded service request information; ~~and means for determining in order to determine~~ resource usage information for each of the said service requests for each of the said users during said time period, said correlating comprising: based upon the correlated recorded process accounting information and the recorded service request information, said determining of said resource usage information comprising;

identifying overlapping usage of any of said computer resources, said overlapping usage comprising usage, during said time period, of a same computer resource to perform processes for at least two different services requests of at least two different users; and

~~allocating any overlapping usage of the computer resources between at least two overlapping service requests, the overlapping service requests being from different users;~~
by one of evenly splitting the said overlapping usage between said at least two different
~~the overlapping service requests and splitting the said overlapping usage in a weighted~~
manner between said at least two different service requests based upon respective durations of said at least two different service requests of the overlapping service
~~requests.~~

10. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for metering the use of network-accessible computer resources by multiple users of said computer resources during a same time period, said computer resources comprising computer software recorded on a computer-readable medium for performing the steps of:

recording, as process accounting information, ~~the use~~ usage of the said computer resources during said time period for a plurality of processes that relate to service requests made by the users, said computer resources comprising servers distributed across an infrastructure of a service provider;

recording service request information for ~~the~~ service requests made by the said users to said service provider; and

correlating the recorded process accounting information and the recorded service request

information; ~~and in order to determine~~ determining resource usage information for each of the said service requests for each of ~~the~~ said users during said time period, said correlating comprising: ~~based upon the correlated recorded process accounting information and the recorded service request information~~, ~~said determining of said resource usage information comprising~~

identifying overlapping usage of any of said computer resources, said overlapping usage comprising usage, during said time period, of a same computer resource to perform processes for at least two different service requests of at least two different users; and

allocating any overlapping usage of the computer resources between at least two overlapping service requests, the overlapping service requests being from different users, by one of evenly splitting ~~the~~ said overlapping usage between said at least two different the overlapping service requests and splitting ~~the~~ said overlapping usage in a weighted manner between said at least two different service requests based upon respective durations of said at least two different service requests ~~of the overlapping service requests~~.

11-21. (Cancelled).

22. (New) The method according to claim 1, further comprising charging said users for said service requests based on said resource usage information.

23. (New) The computer program product according to claim 10, said method further comprising charging said users for said service requests based on said resource usage

information.

24. (New) The computer program product according to claim 10, said method further comprising the step of correlating request logging information and usage logging information.

25. (New) The computer program product according to claim 10, wherein the plurality of processes include processes dynamically spawned by processes for which process accounting information is recorded.

26. (New) The computer program product according to claim 10, said method further comprising the step of maintaining an active request list of the service requests made by the users.

27. (New) The computer program product according to claim 10, wherein separate active lists are maintained for each of the processes.

28. (New) The computer program product according to claim 10, said method further comprising the step of calculating a relative weight of each of the service requests.

29. (New) The computer program product according to claim 10, said method further comprising the step of allocating the resource usage in proportion to calculated relative weights to the service requests.